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PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Serial No.: 10/656,574)
Filed: September 5, 2003)
For: CONDUIT AND METHOD OF)
FORMING)
Applicant: Smith et al.)
Art Unit: 1733)
Examiner: Jayme L. Brown)
Attorney Ref: 1171/41365/135)

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on

January 13, 2006

Amy L. Mitchell
Amy L. Mitchell

SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In accordance with Applicant's duty of candor under 37 CFR §1.56 and in compliance with 37 CFR §1.97 and §1.98, Applicant submits the present Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement and Form PTO/SB/08A. A copy of each of the listed references is included herewith.

This Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement is being filed before the receipt of a first Office Action on the merits. This filing constitutes a bona fide attempt to comply with 37 CFR § 1.97(b)(3).

One of the cited references, DE 198 48 172, is not in the English language. Attached is an English translation of the Abstract of DE 198 48 172, and Applicant adopts same as the statement of relevance for this reference.

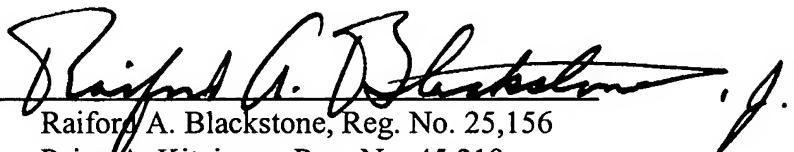
In accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.97, the presentation of this information shall not be construed as a representation that a search has been made, or as an admission that the information cited in this statement is, or is considered to be, material to patentability as defined in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56(b).

Should the Examiner believe a fee is required, the United States Patent and Trademark Office is hereby authorized and requested to charge the fee to the deposit account of the undersigned firm, Account No. 20-1495.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: Jan. 13, 2006

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PTO/SB/08A (08-03)

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Substitute for form 1449/PTO

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT

(Use as many sheets as necessary)

Sheet 1

of 1

Complete if Known	
Application Number	10/656,574
Filing Date	September 5, 2003
First Named Inventor	Daniel John Smith
Art Unit	1733
Examiner Name	Jayme L. Brown
Attorney Docket Number	1171/41365/135

U. S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Signature		Date Considered	
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¹EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. ²Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ³See Kinds of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 901.04. ⁴Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁵For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁶Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. ⁷Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

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